

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of calibrating a look-down digital imaging device, said method comprising:
focusing on a calibration area within said look-down digital imaging device;
scanning a said calibration area within said look-down digital imaging device to capture image data for said calibration area;
analyzing said captured image data for said calibration area; and
adjusting the imaging of said look-down digital imaging device based on said analysis of said captured image data for said calibration area.

2.  Canceled

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 1 wherein said focusing further comprises:
folding the optical path of light reflected from said calibration area for said scanning of said calibration area.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
illuminating said calibration area during said scanning step.

5 (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A method of ~~claim 1 further~~ calibrating a look-down digital imaging device, said method comprising:
scanning a calibration area within said look-down digital imaging device to capture image data for said calibration area;
analyzing said captured image data for said calibration area;
adjusting the imaging of said look-down digital imaging device based on said analysis of said captured image data for said calibration area; and
aligning a scan head of said look-down digital imaging device with said calibration area for performing said scanning step.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said adjusting step comprises at least one adjustment type selected from the group consisting of:

adjusting imaging hardware of said look-down digital imaging device;
adjusting imaging software of said look-down digital imaging device; and
adjusting imaging software of a computer device to which said look-down digital imaging device is coupled.

7 (Currently Amended) A look-down digital imaging device comprising:
calibration area arranged within said look-down digital imaging device, wherein said look-down digital imaging device is operable to scan said calibration area for calibration of said look-down digital imaging ~~device~~ device, and wherein said look-down digital imaging device is operable to achieve an in-focus scan of said calibration area for calibration of said look-down digital imaging device.

8. (Original) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 7 further comprising a scan head.

9. (Currently Amended) The A look-down digital imaging device ~~of claim 8~~ comprising:

calibration area arranged within said look-down digital imaging device, wherein said look-down digital imaging device is operable to scan said calibration area for calibration of said look-down digital imaging device; and
a scan head, wherein said scan head is movable to align with said calibration area.

10. (Original) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 8 wherein said scan head includes:

sensor for imaging an original image placed substantially below said look-down digital imaging device; and
lens for focusing reflected light from said original to said sensor.

11. (Original) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 10 wherein said sensor is a linear sensor.

12. Canceled

13. (Currently Amended) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 42 7 wherein the optical path of light reflected from said calibration area during a scan of said calibration area is folded.

14. (Original) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 13 further comprising:

at least one mirror for folding the optical path of light reflected from said calibration area.

15. (Currently Amended) A system for performing digital imaging comprising:
a look-down digital imaging device that includes means for imaging a target scan area and means for calibrating said look-down digital imaging ~~device~~. device, wherein the calibrating means uses a calibration path that mimics an imaging path to be used by said look-down digital imaging device for imaging said target scan area.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein said means for imaging includes a high resolution linear sensor.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15 wherein said means for calibrating includes a calibration area within said look-down digital imaging device.

18. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein said means for calibrating further includes means for focusing said imaging means on said calibration area.

19. (Original) The system of claim 17 wherein said means for calibrating further includes means for folding the optical path of light reflected from said calibration area.

20. (Original) The system of claim 15 further comprising a computer device to which said look-down digital imaging device is coupled.

21. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining an in-focus imaging path for imaging an object with said look-down digital imaging device, wherein said focusing on said calibration area mimics said in-focus imaging path.

22. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining length of an image path to be used for said look-down imaging an external object, wherein said focusing on said calibration area comprises adjusting a calibration path used for said scanning of said calibration area to correspond to the length of the image path.

23. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
aligning a scan head of said look-down digital imaging device with said calibration area for performing said scanning step.

24. (New) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 7 wherein said in-focus scan of said calibration uses a calibration path that mimics an in-focus imaging path for scanning an external object.

31 25. (New) The look-down digital imaging device of claim 8 wherein said scan head is movable to align with said calibration area.

26. (New) A method of calibrating a look-down digital imaging device, wherein said calibrating method does not require ever scanning a calibration area that is external to said look-down digital imaging device, said method comprising:

scanning an internal calibration area of said look-down digital imaging device to capture image data for said internal calibration area;

analyzing said captured image data for said internal calibration area; and

adjusting the imaging of said look-down digital imaging device based on said analysis of said captured image data for said internal calibration area.

27. (New) The method of claim 26 further comprising:
focusing on said internal calibration area.

28. (New) A method of calibrating a look-down digital imaging device, said method comprising:

scanning an internal calibration area of said look-down digital imaging device to capture image data for said internal calibration area;

analyzing said captured image data for said internal calibration area to determine correction information, wherein said correction information is determined without use of any image data of an external calibration area; and

adjusting the imaging of said look-down digital imaging device in accordance with the determined correction information.

29. (New) The method of claim 28 further comprising:

focusing on said internal calibration area.
